

American

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U.S. and Haiti Have Much Work to Do Together, Secretary Clinton Says

By Stephen Kaufman
Staff Writer

Washington — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton reaffirmed continued U.S. support for Haiti's people through its reconstruction, redevelopment and humanitarian assistance and urged Haiti to move forward with the second round of its presidential election "so that there can be an orderly transfer of authority and a new president can get to work."

Speaking in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, with RFM Internet Radio January 30, Clinton said, "We are here to reassert our commitment. We are impatient; we are determined to work with the people of Haiti to accelerate the progress."

There has been progress in the one year since the January 12, 2010, earthquake, "but not nearly enough," she said. "We have an enormous amount of work to do together."

The Obama administration wants to do more than simply rebuild the structures that were destroyed in the disaster, she said. "We want to have a better education system and health care system. We want more economic opportunity."

The United States also wants to see Haiti decide which candidates will appear on the ballot for the second round of the presidential election. After reports of irregularities following the first round of voting November 28, 2010, the Organization of American States (OAS) reviewed results and recommended that the second round include the third-place candidate, Michel Martelly.

Clinton met with all three presidential contenders — Mirlande Manigat, Jude Celestin, and Martelly — as well as current President Rene Preval during her visit to Haiti and said the United States supports the OAS recommendations, which "reflect the best analysis possible about the intentions of the Haitian people when they voted."

The decision "is up to the government and people of Haiti," she said. But "we would like to see Haiti resolve their election and install a new president so that we can begin the hard work that still lies ahead."

Haiti's electoral council is expected to announce the final results of the first round on February 2. The second round of voting reportedly is scheduled for March 20.

"The important task now is to set out the schedule and make sure that we hold a free and fair second round," Clinton said.

Addressing the Haitian people, she said, "Do not give up. Democracy is worth investing in. It must deliver results for the people, and the United States will stand with you. We know how hard this is, and we admire your courage."

In her January 30 interview with Haiti's Radio Metropole, Clinton said that having a new and stable government will help with the reconstruction effort.

Secretary Clinton's husband, former President Bill Clinton, is the United Nations special envoy to Haiti and is "absolutely committed" to the reconstruction effort, she said.

"About two weeks ago, he announced projects that could employ 20,000 Haitians or more. But there needs to be a government and there needs to be stability in that government for a former president, for the international community, to really be a good partner, which is why we hope that there will be a resolution of the election soon," she said.

Clinton said she hopes the efforts by the United States and others in the international community to help Haiti respond to the challenges of disaster and impoverishment, as well as help the development of Haitian democracy, will be seen as "an effort genuinely to give a better life to the people of Haiti."

The secretary also visited the Partners in Health Cholera Treatment Center in Port-au-Prince January 30, where she was told that although the situation is improving and there has been a decrease in human fatalities due to the disease, cholera will likely remain in Haiti for a long time.

Clinton said the United States is "very committed" to continuing its support for efforts to treat and prevent cholera and said she was impressed by what has been done in the short period of time since the first cases of the disease were confirmed in October 2010.

"I want to reassure and reaffirm the U.S. commitment to the needs of the Haitian people, the health needs and other needs that are present and in many ways exacerbated by the continuing efforts at reconstruction and redevelopment following the earthquake," she said.

"We have a long way to go, just as we have a long way to go in our ongoing work with Haiti," Clinton said.

A Scholar Looks Back to the Future of Central Asia

By Jeff Baron
Staff Writer

Washington — When Adeeb Khalid was growing up in Lahore, Pakistan, neighboring Soviet Central Asia did not seem like a land next door but a distant, exotic place.

Although his work as a historian has taken him about as far as can be from where he started, he has become a leading scholar on Central Asia and its recent history.

Khalid, 46, a Pakistani American and a professor of history at Carleton College in Minnesota, has begun six months of rare scholarly luxury in Washington. As a visiting scholar at the Kluge Center of the Library of Congress, he is freed from the duties of preparing and teaching classes, mentoring students and meeting with faculty colleagues, not to mention shoveling the snow of another Midwestern winter from in front of his house. (His son, now 14, is big enough to take that over, he says.) Instead, he has immersed himself in the resources of the world's largest library to finish a history of Central Asia in the first 15 years of Soviet rule after the 1917 Russian Revolution, a pivotal period he describes as one of nationalistic and idealistic hope turning to disappointment and fear.

Khalid is tracing the careers and concerns of that era's Central Asian intellectual and political leaders. He said they yearned to remake Central Asian society in a progressive way, to teach its citizens "literacy, science, the scientific method, hygiene — so they could act like modern, civilized people of the 20th century. That included changing the place of women in society, doing away with forced marriages, child marriages, polygamy, all of those. So it's a huge cultural agenda."

What's more, Khalid said, the Central Asian leaders wanted an economic revolution for their region of small farmers and nomadic herdsmen, bringing not only irrigation and other improvements in agriculture but "doing away with the inequalities of colonialism so that Central Asia would acquire an industry."

"In 1917, Central Asia was a distant colonial periphery of the Russian Empire," Khalid said as he sat in his Library of Congress office. "It was culturally, religiously, ethnically completely different, as different from Petersburg and Moscow as India was from England. And in many ways, it was run as a colony and not as another part of the empire."

So Central Asians embraced the first Russian Revolution of 1917, which made all Russian subjects equal citizens — "a very, very progressive, universalizing" move, Khalid said. And eight months later, many embraced the Bolshevik Revolution and the Soviets' utopian vision of equality. They became Central Asia's homegrown Soviet administrators and had "a mind of their own," he said — which by the early 1930s made them untrustworthy in the eyes of Soviet leader Joseph Stalin as he consolidated power.

In writings by Central Asia's elites of the 1920s, including

Communist Party members, Khalid said, the objections to policies from Moscow are clear: They lament that Central Asia is treated as "a cotton colony." Their language becomes more guarded as the years go by. "The rhetoric of the '30s is just so grotesque, whereas in the '20s people would still say what they wanted," Khalid said. "So I find the '30s less interesting. It's also dismal because all the people I'm [researching] all get shot."

Even the purges of the 1930s, to the historian, show the dramatic leaps Central Asia took in that time. Khalid said that one of the men he has studied, Abdurrauf Fitrat, was born in the Khanate of Bukhara in 1886, just 10 years after it had become a Russian protectorate, and was executed in 1938. "You go in one lifetime from the Genghis Khan's political tradition to modern totalitarianism," Khalid said.

Khalid said he has been researching this book for years. Some of the most valuable material for the book popped up at the Library of Congress, and it fills several shelves in his office: cream-colored volumes, the covers and spines blank, published in the Turkic languages of Central Asia in the 1920s and 1930s and quickly acquired by the library, shipped to Washington, bound and put aside without even being catalogued. The edges of the pages have yellowed slightly, but the volumes have the smell and feel of books never before opened.

"People know in the field that there is this stash of books here," Khalid said. "So I went up to the reading room, and they pulled out all the books and they said, 'You take all the ones that you find interesting.'" He said they cover "all topics under the sun," from beekeeping to physics, and he has been reading those on political and literary topics. When he's done with the materials — before his six-month stay at the library is up — the books will return to their permanent shelves.

Khalid portrays the Central Asia of the 1920s as a place of possibilities. As Turkey was undergoing its transformation from a remnant of the defeated Ottoman Empire to a modern, secular nation-state, Central Asia sought to do much the same. The cultural modernization was largely a success, Khalid said, and the Soviet Union fostered the rise of "these ethno-national identities" with the creation of the Central Asian Soviet republics.

Yet the central government showed a lack of respect for local culture. "One case is about Eastern music," Khalid said. "The Central Asian intellectuals basically wanted to create a canon of classical Central Asian music. From Moscow came down the line: 'No, there's only one single, universal tradition of classical music, and what you have is Eastern music, and that's well and good, but we need to civilize it, and we need to write symphonies based on themes from that music. But really, it's not a separate tradition.'"

The early Soviet legacy also shows in the Islam of Central Asia, the subject of Khalid's last book. (His previous book was on the politics of Muslim cultural reform, or Jadidism, under the Russian Empire, and he has written more than a dozen scholarly articles on the past 150 years of Central Asia's history.) To some extent, he said, Central Asia's ethnic identities supplanted religious identity as the Soviets imposed "a massive, sustained campaign against Islam" and "the forced secularization" of society, especially from 1927 to 1940. "I call it the disestablishment of Islam as a source of moral authority. No one said they are not Muslim, but it just means something different."

As a result, he said, "Islam is part of the national cultural inheritance but doesn't necessarily dictate things ... as opposed to, say, in Pakistan, where you don't have this language of national and cultural heritage and then Islam is the only thing left, and people using Islamic rhetoric can dictate and there's nothing that can hold them back."

Ursula Burns' Path to Success in the Fortune 500

By Mark Trainer
Staff Writer

Washington — There are four African Americans serving as chief executives in the Fortune 500, *Fortune* magazine's ranking of the top U.S. companies. Among this small group of trailblazers, Ursula Burns of Xerox Corporation has the distinction of being the only black female to serve as the chief executive of a Fortune 500 company.

Burns spent her childhood in the Baruch Houses, a low-income public housing project on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. "[My mother was] a single woman raising three kids on next to nothing who showed me courage and gave me inner strength," Burns said. In 2009 she told a YWCA gathering, "I can still hear her telling me, 'Circumstances don't define anyone.' She used to say to me all the time, 'Where you are is not who you are. *Where* you are is not *who* you are.'"

During the journey from where Ursula Burns was to who she is now, she leaned heavily on this advice and followed her own instincts even when they clashed with the prevailing advice.

When teachers in her Catholic high school steered her toward a traditional career in nursing, the teenage Burns went to the library instead and looked up the top-paying fields in math and science, the areas in which she excelled. This research led her to mechanical engineering by way of Polytechnic Institute of New York and graduate school at Columbia University. While at Columbia, Burns undertook a summer internship at Xerox, the beginning of her long tenure with the Connecticut-based document systems company.

"I joined Xerox as an engineering intern and never really had my sights on anything beyond the engineering side of the business," said Burns, who leads a company that had revenue of \$22 billion in 2010. Her first years with Xerox saw her work rewarded with promotion to middle management. "I was very content with my career choice, comfortable with what I knew and what I was learning ... until a chance encounter with a Xerox executive steered me in a new direction."

In 1990, asked by the vice president of marketing and customer operations to participate in a teamwork panel, Burns took offense at another participant's opinions on women in management positions and vehemently expressed her disapproval. The vice president, Waylon Hicks, appreciated her point of view.

"My boldness caught [Hicks'] attention. He asked to meet with me and later offered me a position as his executive assistant — a mentoring opportunity to work side-by-side with him to better understand how the business is run," she said.

Not long after that, she became executive assistant for Xerox's then-chief executive officer (CEO) Paul Allaire, "getting an up close and hands-on feel for the day-to-day activities of senior-level management. From there I saw a path for me in management that took me outside my comfort zone but gave me a whole new sense of confidence in the value I could bring to the business."

Her next step was vice president and general manager of Xerox's color and facsimile division and vice president of Corporate Strategic Services. In 2007, she was named president and, in 2009, then-CEO Anne Mulcahy announced Burns as her successor, the first black female CEO of a Fortune 500 company.

What has set Burns apart from many other top executives is her professional trajectory: a strong foundation in mechanical engineering rather than the more usual business-school track. "While I transitioned into management, my engineering background was and continues to be the foundation of everything I do at Xerox," Burns said, "from leading product development to understanding how to make technology and our services work better and smarter for our customers."

Christopher Metzler points to Xerox's recognition of the breadth of Burns' experience within the company as a good model for other companies appointing CEOs. Metzler is an associate dean for human resources at Georgetown University in Washington who has provided advice to multinational corporations on discrimination and diversity. "If we had a rigorous process that said, 'In order to be a successful CEO, you must have the following 10 competencies,' and if we developed those

competencies to begin with, then we'd have a deeper bench from which to choose," Meltzer said.

Too many companies, he believes, choose a CEO based on a vague idea of whom the board feels comfortable with, rather than who is most qualified, making for a less diverse and less well-trained selection. The decision to promote Ursula Burns was different. "Ann [Mulcahy], who was the CEO at Xerox, basically said, 'Okay, I'm comfortable with Ursula because —' and she was able to list what the 'because' was: She's run a business unit. And not only has she run a business unit, she's run it successfully. She understands how the organization functions. What Ann did, which is unlike what so many other CEOs do, is to articulate in business language what this 'comfort' is," Meltzer said.

"I'm known for being frank and speaking my mind," Burns said. "That's a good thing as long as I'm also spending time to listen. The critical component is the alignment of people around a common set of objectives. Diversity is a key factor to this strategy. We've created an inclusive environment where everyone is given the chance to learn, to lead, to embrace challenges and to succeed."

While she singles out her mother as the predominant role model in her personal development, she gives the example of Vernon Jordan — the lawyer, civil rights activist and former presidential adviser — as a role model in her professional life. "He has shown that wisdom, respect and patience can be powerful. We all have people like this in our lives. These relationships shape our existence — and they remind me that, in so many respects, I truly am my race and my gender. There is no denying either. They define my heritage."

Statement on Belarus Sanctions

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesman
January 31, 2011

STATEMENT BY PHILIP J. CROWLEY, ASSISTANT
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Belarus Sanctions

The United States announces today measures to respond to the brutal crackdown by President Lukashenko and the Government of Belarus in the wake of the presidential election of December 19, 2010. The disproportionate use of force and initial detentions of hundreds of demonstrators; charging of five opposition presidential candidates; ongoing raids against civil society, media and political parties; the closure of the OSCE's office in Minsk; and a flawed vote count all represent major steps

backwards for the country. These actions oblige the United States and others in the international community to act. As Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton said in their joint statement of December 23, "the people of Belarus deserve better."

In response to the continuing crackdown, the United States is undertaking the following steps:

- The United States is revoking the general license that had temporarily authorized U.S. persons to engage in otherwise prohibited transactions with Lakorkaska OAO and Polotsk Steklovolokno OAO, two blocked subsidiaries of Belarus's largest state-owned petroleum and chemical conglomerate, Belneftekhim. All transactions with Belneftekhim and its subsidiaries are now blocked pursuant to Executive Order 13405.
- The United States is significantly expanding the list of Belarusian officials subject to travel restrictions. We will enforce those restrictions to prevent the entry into the United States of individuals (and their family members) who are responsible for actions or policies related to the crackdown that began December 19.
- The United States is working to impose financial sanctions against additional Belarusian individuals and/or entities pursuant to Executive Order 13405. The criteria for inclusion on these lists are participation in actions or policies that undermine democratic processes or institutions, or responsibility for human rights abuses related to political repression.

The United States continues to seek the immediate release of all detainees and the dropping of all charges associated with the crackdown; a halt to the harassment of civil society, independent media and the political opposition; and space for the free expression of political views, the development of a civil society, and freedom of the media. We will review and adjust our policies based on subsequent actions by the Government of Belarus.

These measures are not aimed at the Belarusian people. The United States is planning to expand this year by at least 30 percent its assistance to Belarusian civil society, independent media and democratic political parties, including for activities which increase Belarusians' contact with open societies.

The United States is closely coordinating its response to the crackdown in Belarus with the European Union and other partners. In this regard, we welcome today's decision of the European Union's Foreign Affairs Council to impose travel restrictions and an asset freeze, and strengthen its support to civil society.

(Preceding items distributed by the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://america.gov>)